



WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Division of Economic Support

Bureau of Work Support Programs

**TO: Economic Support Supervisors
Economic Support Lead Workers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators
W-2 Agencies**

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Work Programs Section

SUBJECT: TREATMENT OF CENSUS EARNINGS

BWSP OPERATIONS MEMO

No.: 00-24

File: 2420 2820
2720 7032

Date: 03/31/2000

Non W-2 ☒ **W-2** ☒ **CC** ☒

PRIORITY: High

CROSS REFERENCE: W-2 Manual, Chapter 5, 5.2.3.
MA Handbook, 15.2.2.
Child Day Care Manual, Chapter 2, 2.3.2.5.
FS Handbook, 12.0.0.

EFFECTIVE: 02/01/2000 through 12/31/2000

PURPOSE

This Operations Memo announces policies for treatment of the earnings of persons temporarily employed by the U. S. Bureau of the Census for the 2000 Census.

BACKGROUND

The average hourly rate for census takers and for office/clerical staff is expected to be at least \$ 8.25 an hour with employment expected to last 3-6 months. We are told most hires will be made after April 1.

More information is available at the US Census internet site: <<http://www.census.gov>>.

DWD will promulgate an emergency Administrative Rule change for Wisconsin Works and Child Care purposes. Federal authorities have been consulted for Food Stamp and Medical Assistance purposes.

WISCONSIN WORKS (W-2)

Effective February 1, 2000, disregard all wages paid by the U.S. Census Bureau for temporary employment related to Census 2000 activities when determining income eligibility for W-2.

Place the person who becomes employed 30 or more hours per week by Census in Case Management Follow-up (CMF). When the Census employment ends, we encourage you to work with the former participant to find new unsubsidized employment rather than place the former participant back into a W-2 employment position. For those persons who are employed less than 30 or more hours per week, consider Census employment hours in determining whether or not these participants are appropriate for a prorated CSJ.

Count Census employment as “entered employment”.

CHILD CARE

Effective February 1, 2000, disregard all wages paid by the U.S. Census Bureau for temporary employment related to Census 2000 activities when determining:

1. Eligibility for Child Care.
2. Child Care copayment amounts.

The person will pay the minimum co-pay for the life of the Census employment (up to 6 months).

Census employment is a qualifying activity; code it “EMPL” on screen ANCI. Authorize children for care as needed while their parent(s) is in Census 2000 activities.

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Effective February 1, 2000, disregard all wages paid by the U.S. Census Bureau for temporary employment related to Census 2000 activities when determining:

1. Eligibility for Food Stamps.
2. Food Stamp allotment amounts.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Effective February 1, 2000, disregard all wages paid by the U.S. Census Bureau for temporary employment related to Census 2000 activities when determining:

1. Eligibility for Medicaid and BadgerCare.
2. Whether a BadgerCare assistance group has to pay a premium and the amount of the premium.

Corrective Actions

Cases that were denied or terminated from Medicaid or BadgerCare, or were eligible for BadgerCare and owed a premium since February 1, and had earnings from temporary Census employment during this time, must be reviewed by the local agency. If their benefits would be affected by this policy change, take corrective action.

Change the employment type code on AFEI to "C" beginning February, and redetermine eligibility for the affected benefit months. If possible, confirm the new eligibility results on CARES. If it is not possible to correct a case in CARES, manually certify the case for Medicaid or BadgerCare using the 3070 form. If you have to manually certify a BadgerCare assistance group, you must use a Medical Status Code that does not require a premium payment.

ALL PROGRAMS

CARES

On screen AFEI, use code "C" in the Employment Type field to indicate the earnings are for temporary Census employment.

Information

Inform recipients/participants that temporary census employment will not affect their Food Stamp or other eligibility.

CONTACT

DES CARES & Policy Call Center Email: carpolcc@dwd.state.wi.us

Telephone: (608) 261-6317
 Option #1 for FS, MA, & W-2
 Option #2 for Child Care

Fax: (608) 261-6968

Note: Email contacts are preferred. Thank you.